IN THE CLAIMS

1. (Original) In a digital communications network, a method comprising:

checking a multiplexed connection's bandwidth capacity to carry a call over a link;

and

overflowing the call onto a non-multiplexed connection, when the multiplexing

connection's bandwidth is insufficient to carry the call.

2. (Original) The method of claim 1, further comprising sending the call over the

multiplexed connection when the multiplexed connection's bandwidth is sufficient to

carry the call.

3. (Original) The method of claim 2, wherein overflowing the call comprises:

adding a single non-multiplexed connection over the link per call;

transmitting the call over the non-multiplexed connection; and

tearing down the single non-multiplexed connection once the call is completed.

4. (Original) The method of claim 3, wherein the multiplexed connection is a

multiplexed Q.AAL2 signaling channel.

5. (Original) The method of claim 4, wherein the non-multiplexed connection is a

non-multiplexed Q.AAL2 signaling channel.

6. (Original) An apparatus for use in a digital communication network, comprising:

means for checking a multiplexed connection's bandwidth capacity to carry a call

over a link; and

means for overflowing the call onto a non-multiplexed connection, when the

multiplexing connection's bandwidth is insufficient to carry the call.

7.   (Original) The apparatus of claim 6, further comprising means for sending the

call over the multiplexed connection when the multiplexed connection's bandwidth is

sufficient to carry the call.

8.   (Original) The apparatus of claim 7, wherein the means for overflowing the call

comprises:

      means for adding a single non-multiplexed connection over the link per call;

      means for transmitting the call over the non-multiplexed connection; and

      means for tearing down the single non-multiplexed connection once the call is

          completed.

9.   (Original) The apparatus of claim 8, wherein the multiplexed connection is a

multiplexed Q.AAL2 signaling channel.

10.   (Original) The apparatus of claim 9, wherein the non-multiplexed connection is a

non-multiplexed Q.AAL2 signaling channel.

11.   (Original) A computer-readable medium having stored thereon a plurality of

instructions, said plurality of instructions when executed by a computer, cause said

computer to perform the method of:

      checking a multiplexed connection's bandwidth capacity to carry a call over a link;

          and

overflowing the call onto a non-multiplexed connection, when the multiplexing

connection's bandwidth is insufficient to carry the call.

12.   (Original) The computer-readable medium of claim 11 having stored thereon

additional instructions, said plurality of instructions when executed by a computer, cause

said computer to further perform the method of sending the call over the multiplexed

connection when the multiplexed connection's bandwidth is sufficient to carry the call.

13.   (Original) The computer-readable medium of claim 12 having stored thereon

additional instructions, said plurality of instructions when executed by a computer for

overflowing the call, cause said computer to further perform the method of:

   adding a single non-multiplexed connection over the link per call;

   transmitting the call over the non-multiplexed connection; and

   tearing down the single non-multiplexed connection once the call is completed.

14.   (Original) The computer-readable medium of claim 13, wherein the multiplexed

connection is a multiplexed Q.AAL2 signaling channel.

15.   (Original) The computer-readable medium of claim 14, wherein the non-

multiplexing connection is a non-multiplexed Q.AAL2 signaling channel.

16.   (Canceled)

17.   (Currently Amended) ~~The switch of claim 16, wherein the processor overflows~~ <u>A</u>

   <u>digital communication switch comprising:</u>

   <u>a bus;</u>

a processor coupled to the bus;

a storage device coupled to the bus, the storage device to store instructions to be executed by the processor; and

a buffer to store voice data cells, wherein the processor is configured to monitor the available bandwidth of a multiplexed connection, receive a voice call, route the call according to the available bandwidth, and overflow the call onto a non-multiplexed connection when the available bandwidth of the multiplexed connection is insufficient to carry the call.

18.   (Currently Amended) The switch of claim 17, wherein the processor is configured to send sends the call over the multiplexed connection when the available bandwidth of the multiplexed connection is sufficient to carry the call.

19.   (Original) The switch of claim 18, wherein the multiplexing connection is a multiplexed Q.AAL2 signaling channel.

20.   (Original) The switch of claim 19, wherein the non-multiplexing connection is a non-multiplexed Q.AAL2 signaling channel.